Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /136 W

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R 251104Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5501

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CONFIDENTIAL PHNOM PENH 4366

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MILI PINT PINS CB VN

SUBJECT: KHIEU SAMPHAN'S VISIT TO HANOI

REF: FBIS BANGKOK D 241445 MAR 74

1. RADIO HANOI'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT KC LEADER KHIEU SAMPHAN WILL SOON PAY A "FRIENDLY AND OFFICIAL VISIT" TO THE DRV STRIKES US AS A POSSIBLE SIGN OF SOME POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES WITHIN GRUNK/FUNK, PARTICULARLY BETWEEN SIHANOUK AND THE IN-COUNTRY LEADERSHIP. THIS SPECULATION IS BASED ON FOLLOWING REASONING:

A. WHILE IT IS PROBABLE THAT KHIEU SAMPHAN WILL TIME HIS VISIT TO COINCIDE WITH A PERIOD OF RELATIVELY LESSENED MILITARY ACTIVITY (PERHAPS AFTER THE OUDONG AND KAMPOT CAMPAIGNS BUT BEFORE THE NEST MAJOR EFFORT, WHEREVER THAT MAY BE) AS OVERALL BATTLEFIELD COMMAND HE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE RELUCTANT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AT ALL DURINTHE CRUCIAL DRY SEASON EXCEPT FOR MATTERS OF PRESSING URGENCY.

B. IF THESE MATTERS ARE SOLELY MILITARY, HIS VISIT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE PUBLICIZED. (IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE, OF CONFIDENTIAL

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COURSE, THAT MILITARY MATTERS; I.E. ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

TO OFFSET EXTENSIVE KC LOSSES, HAVE BECOME CENTRAL POLITICAL ISSUES. WE RECALL IN THIS REGARD KC REQUEST LAST OCTOBER FOR NVA NINTH DIVISION TO COME TO CAMBODIA.

C. THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT CLOSELY FOLLOWS SIHANOUK'S DEPARTURE FROM THE DRV AND THE TEERMS USED SUGGEST THAT KHIEU SAMPHAN IS GETTING EQUAL TIME.

2. WE WOULD MOST APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ADDRESSEE POSTS. PARTUCULARLY PEKING AND PARIS, MIGHT RECEIVE ON PURPOSE OF KHIEU SAMPHAN'S VISIT TO HANOI. ENDERS

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Subject: KHIEU SAMPHAN'S VISIT TO HANOI

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